

TOP SECRET DINAB
NO FOREIGN DISSEM

SC No. 06466/63

10 June 1963

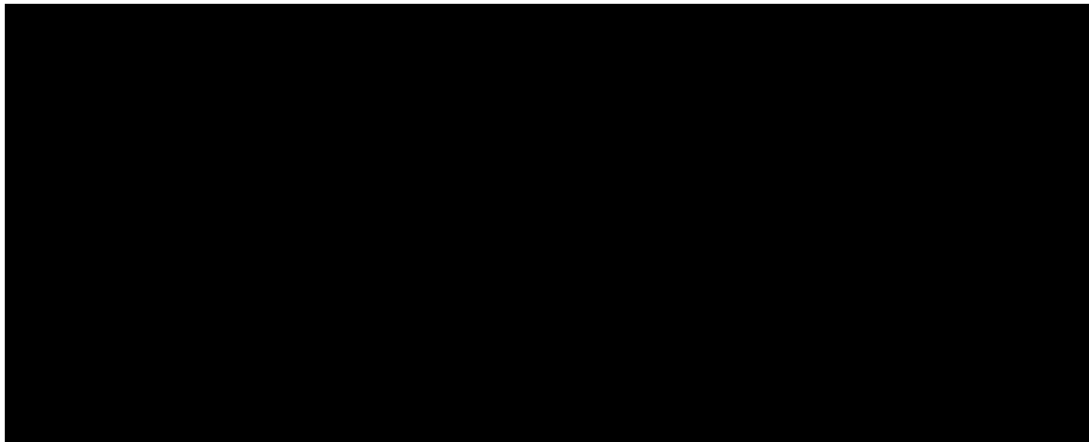
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MEMORANDUM:

SUBJECT : Preliminary Comment on Mission GRC-153
Flown on 3 June 1963

1. This mission was designed primarily to provide a thorough search for nuclear facilities along

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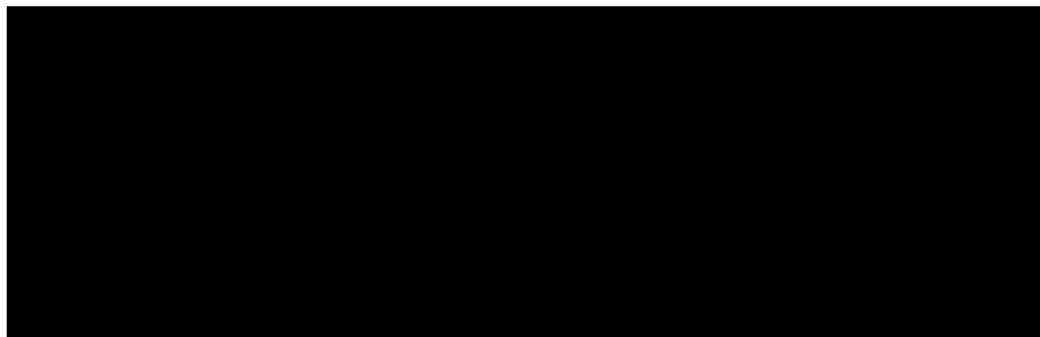
A tenth surface-to-air missile (SAM) site was identified in Communist China as well as three more launch positions at a SAM site first detected in

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photography last June.

NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS

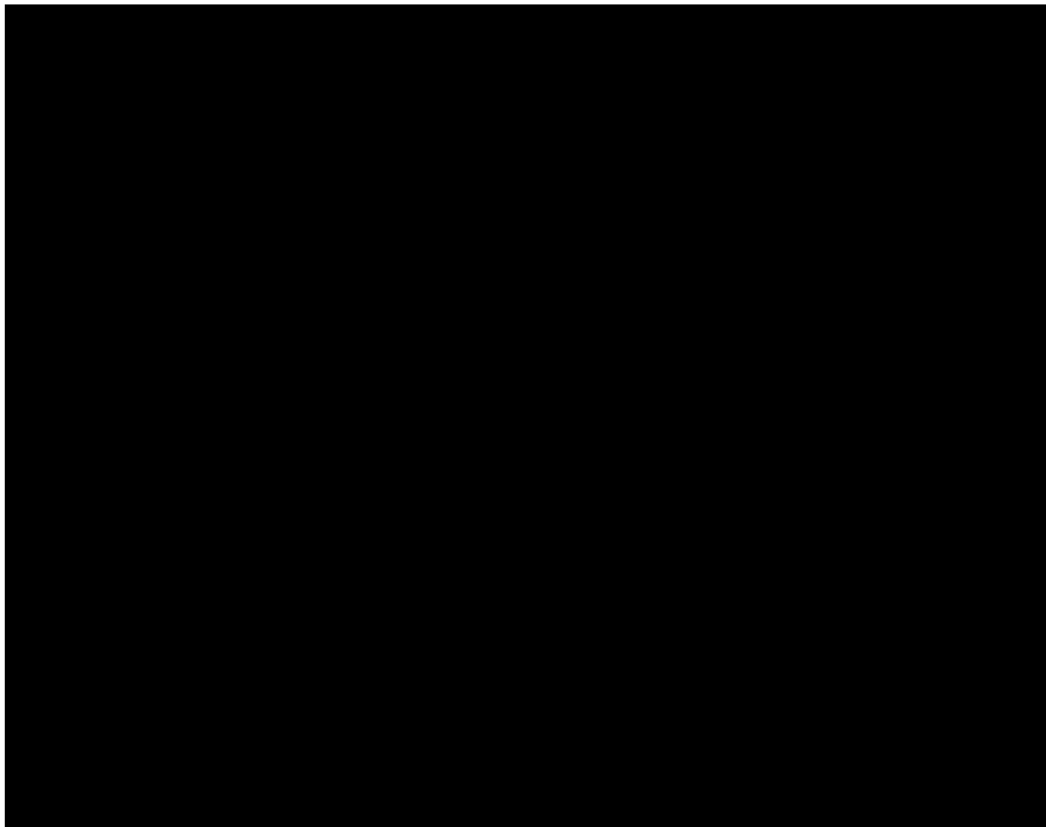
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MISSILE DEVELOPMENTS

4. One SAM site, consisting of six launch positions, was detected for the first time near Chungwei, about 140 miles northeast of Lanchou. The reason for the positioning of this installation in an extremely isolated area is unknown. Its operational status has not been determined.

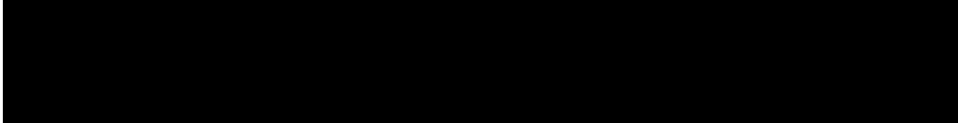

5. Three more launch positions have been added to a known SAM site at Sanyuan north of Sian. These facilities have been constructed since last June and may mark the conversion of this installation, previously consisting of only three launch

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positions, from a purely training role to that of a tactical site.

6. The identification of the Chungwei site brings the total number of known SAM sites in China to ten. Of these, only the one tactical site at the Shuangchengtzu Missile Test Range and the three additional launch positions at Sanyuan are known to have been added since the general withdrawal of Soviet assistance in 1960.

7. There was only one instance of Elint intercepts of SAM-associated radar signals on this mission. Two intercepts of signals from the same FAN SONG (Target Tracking and Missile Guidance) Radar were obtained within a 30-minute period as the mission aircraft traversed the western outskirts of Lanchou city. Analysis of the photography of this area, however, failed to reveal any evidence of a SAM site.



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25X1D

MILITARY

8. Three major tactical airfields were covered by this mission. Two TU-16 (Badger) jet medium bombers and 11 TU-4 (Bull) piston engine bombers were photographed at Wukung airfield near Sian--

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location of China's only medium bomber unit, the 4th Independent Air Regiment. The two Badger aircraft were delivered from the USSR in 1959 and have been noted on infrequent navigational training flights.

9. There was no submarine activity noted at Wuchang shipyard in the Wuhan complex. This is one of the four major Chinese Communist naval shipyards and the only one located considerably inland. It would appear that China has completed the program of assembly and fitting out of all of its "W-Class" submarines and that these units, numbering at least 22 long range boats, are now assigned to the fleet.

10. A large communications site has been detected at Hsienyang near Sian. This installation may serve the China-wide military mainline communications network controlled by the Ministry of National Defense (MND) in Peiping. During the period December 1961 through February 1962 a communications terminal believed to be in the general Sian area demonstrated a capability to control extensive mainline communications. This was the first known occurrence of these facilities controlled from a location other than Peiping, and suggests

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that Sian may have the capability to serve as the alternate headquarters for the MND under unstable conditions.

INDUSTRY

11. Several large industrial complexes were covered by this mission. All major industries noted appear to be active but not necessarily working at full capacity. Smoke was observed emitting from vents atop the open-hearth furnaces at Wuhan Iron and Steel plant but not from the three blast furnaces. Construction of industrial and rail facilities at Paotou continues.

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